

PAKISTAN

Q. What is the Symington Amendment?

A. The Symington Amendment to the Foreign Assistance Act requires the U.S. to cut off new economic assistance, military aid or supporting assistance to any country which receives nuclear enrichment equipment, materials or technology from another country unless certain restrictive conditions having to do with international safeguards are met prior to the delivery of the items in question. PL-480 (food aid) and cash military sales are not affected by this legislation.

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Q. What kinds and levels of aid are we considering for Pakistan?

A. -- We are reviewing various possible kinds of aid to Pakistan, military and economic.

-- We are consulting with Congressional leaders on this question.

-- We will announce our conclusions after we have completed these consultations and discussed the matter with the Government of Pakistan.

Q. Before we terminated our economic aid to Pakistan, what had the annual aid level been?

A. -- IN U.S. fiscal year 1977, the last year in which we had a normal aid relationship with Pakistan, we provided \$52.7 million in economic development assistance to Pakistan. PL 480 levels have fluctuated depending on both the need for food commodities in Pakistan and PL 480 appropriations. In FY 1978, the total came to \$59.2 million and in FY 1979 we provided \$40 million. PL 480 was of course not affected by our imposition of the Symington Amendment.

Aid to Pakistan

Q. How much economic development assistance remains in the "pipeline" of projects approved prior to the imposition of the Symington but not fully implemented?

A. -- Work is continuing on 10 projects which had been approved but not completed last April. As of the end of September, \$65 million remained to be disbursed under these projects. The bulk of the funds were related to four projects: a fertilizer factory we were helping the Pakistanis to construct, a basic health services project, and projects supporting on-farm water management and agricultural research.

Q. How much is in the pipeline of military supplies approved but not yet delivered to Pakistan?

A. -- Approximately \$87 million in military supplies had been approved but not delivered as of early January. In addition, we had approved spare parts sales of approximately \$60 million, involving spares on which the Pakistanis had not yet made a final decision whether they wished to buy them or not.

Suspension of Work on Kiev and  
New York Consulates General

Q: What is involved when the President says we will delay the opening of any new American or Soviet consular facilities?

A: -- Under the terms of the US-USSR Communiqué of July 3, 1974, it was agreed to "open additional Consulates General in two or three cities of each country. As a first step, both sides agreed to the establishment of a US Consulate General in Kiev and a Soviet Consulate General in New York.

-- We have suspended plans to open these two consulates. The building for the Soviet Consulate General in New York is completed. We do not plan to carry on construction of our buildings in Kiev beyond their current phase.

Q: Are officials on both sides already in place, and, if so, will they be withdrawn or asked to leave?

A: -- All seven Americans who are living and working on the project in Kiev will be withdrawn. Seventeen Soviet consular officials and employees in their New York advance party will be required to leave the United States. Arrangements will be made in both cities for the security and protection of the buildings.

Level of Representation

Q: Are you reviewing the level of Soviet representation in the United States?

A: -- Such a review is a part of our overall evaluation of US-Soviet relations. We are also looking at whether travel restrictions on their diplomats here and ours there are reciprocal.

-- In immediate terms, the suspension of work on opening new consulates general in New York and Kiev will mean a reduction of the 17 Soviet consular officials and employees in the Soviet advance party in New York, while seven Americans in the advance party in Kiev will also be withdrawn.

Q: How many Soviets are working at the United Nations or are assigned to their Mission to the UN? Is there a ceiling on them?

A: -- By latest count, and it is not possible to be precise here, there are nearly 500 Soviet diplomats, officials and employees in New York assigned either to the United Nations or to the Soviet Mission to the UN. The breakdown is: 240 Soviets at their Mission to the UN and roughly 260 Soviets attached to the UN Secretariat. There is no ceiling on Soviets assigned to the United Nations.

Allied Response

Q: What has been the response of our allies?

A: -- Our allies are as concerned as we are about this Soviet aggression.

-- We are in close touch with them to make sure that our actions are supported and that no advantage is taken of the sacrifices we are making for the sake of peace and our common interests.

-- We have been encouraged by their initial responses. They will make clear their own decisions and actions.

-- We will continue to stress that international solidarity is essential in meeting this Soviet threat to international peace and stability.